

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A device for holding a fastener for fastening or unfastening of said  
5 fastener, which comprises:

an elongated member having a central portion, said central  
portion being a handle, and having a first end and a second end, said  
elongated member having a central axis, said first end having a first pair  
of gripping fingers substantially parallel with said central axis, and said  
10 second end having a second pair of gripping fingers substantially non-  
parallel with said central axis, said first pair of gripping fingers and said  
second pair of gripping fingers each having opposing fingers with non-  
straight inside opposing surfaces, and including a biasing spring that  
biases each gripping finger of each pair of gripping fingers toward one  
15 another, said first pair of gripping fingers and said second pair of  
gripping fingers being adapted to removably retain a fastener.

2. The device for holding fastener of claim 1 wherein said inside  
opposing surface of at least one of said first pair of gripping fingers and  
20 said second pair of gripping fingers are symmetric with respect to one  
another.

3. The device for holding a fastener of claim 1 wherein said inside opposing surfaces of said first pair of gripping fingers and of said second pair of gripping fingers are asymmetric relative to one another.

5 4. The device for holding a fastener of claim 3 wherein said inside opposing surfaces of said first pair of gripping fingers and of said second pair of gripping fingers include one recess area and one opposing protrusion area.

10 5. The device for holding a fastener of claim 4 wherein said recess area is larger than said opposing protrusion.

15 6. The device for holding a fastener of claim 1 wherein said biasing spring is established as a U-shaped member connected to each gripping finger of said first pair of gripping fingers.

7. The device for holding a fastener of claim 1 wherein said biasing spring is a plurality of leaf springs, at least one of said plurality of leaf springs set against each of said gripping fingers.

20 8. The device for holding a fastener of claim 1 wherein said second pair of gripping fingers is at an angle between about 40° and about 110° from said central axis.

9. The device for holding a fastener of claim 8 wherein said second pair of gripping fingers is at an angel between 80 degrees and about 100 degrees from said central axis.

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10. The device for holding a fastener of claim 1 wherein said central portion of said elongated member includes an insulated outer area.

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11. The device for holding a fastener of claim 10 wherein said elongated member is a hollow member and said first pair of gripping fingers and said second pair of gripping fingers are partially inserted therein.

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12. The device for holding a fastener of claim 1 wherein said device is made of material selected from a group consisting of metal, plastic, fiberglass, glass, ceramic and combinations thereof.

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13. The device for holding a fastener of claim 12 wherein said device is made of metal.

14. The device for holding a fastener of claim 13 further wherein said device includes insulative plastic covering.

15. The device for holding a fastener of claim 1 wherein said gripping fingers are formed of flat stock material.

16. The device for holding a fastener of claim 1 wherein said gripping fingers are formed of round wire stock material.

17. The device for holding a fastener of claim 13 wherein a pair of gripping fingers and its spring are all formed of a single wire.

18. The device for holding a fastener of claim 1 wherein said elongated member is at least partially hollow and wherein at least one of said first pair of gripping fingers and said second pair of gripping fingers is partially within said elongated member and is slideably moveable away from and toward said elongated member.

19. The device for holding a fastener of claim 17 wherein said first pair of gripping fingers and said second pair of gripping fingers are each partially within said elongated member and are slideably moveable away from and toward said elongated member.

20. The device for holding a fastener of claim 19 wherein each of said first pair of gripping fingers and said second pair of gripping fingers have biasing springs establishing by a U-shaped member having a first

end connected to a gripping finger and a second end connected to a different gripping finger.

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